BENGALURU, MONDAY, JUNE 30, 2025 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 30 | Min 20 | Humidity 65% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 84,058 | Nifty 25,637 | Gold 97,420 | Silver 1,07,800 | Dollar 85.47 | Euro 100.55 | GBP 117.55

YouTube Shorts

Flip for more!

Get more with Shorts

#1 in short-form content across*

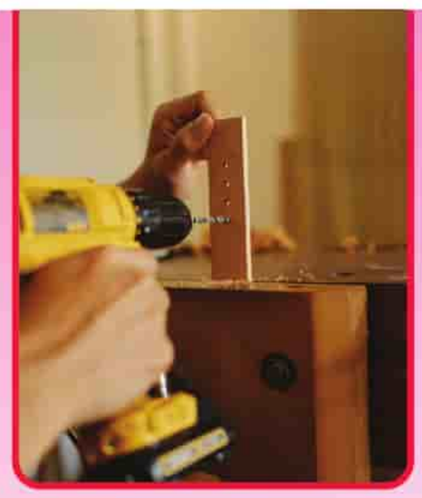
Auto Entertainment Tech
Travel Finance Music
Education Sports
Beauty Food

#MoreOnShorts

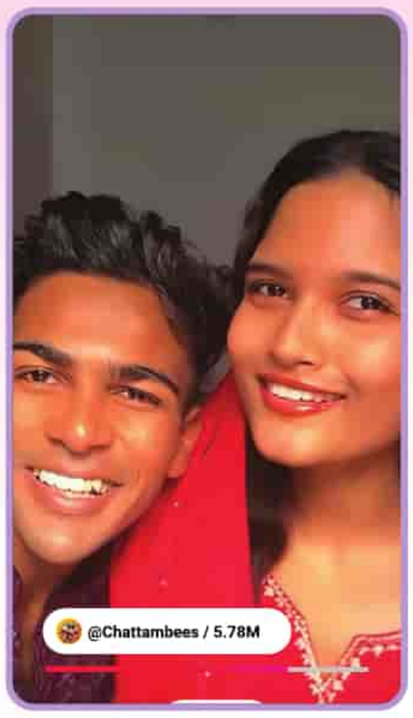
Brands, scan for an expert consult

More creators.
More ways to partner.
More results.

*Google/Kantar, Short-form Video Deep Dive, India, n=1,200 adults aged 18-65 who watch short-form videos at least monthly.



#DIY



#MINIVLOG

#SUMMERSKINCARE

#MINECRAFTBUILDS

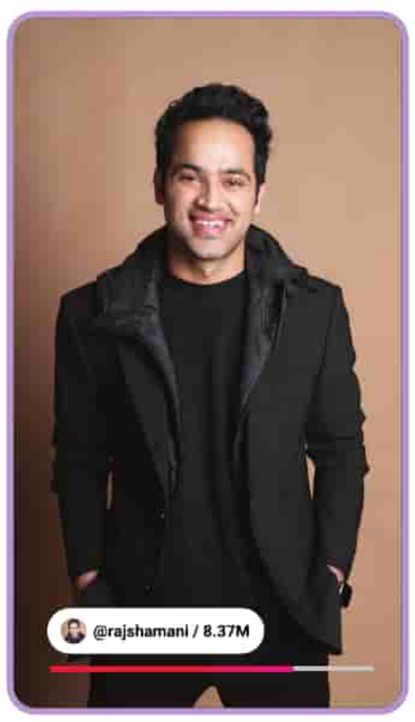
#WHATIEATINADAY

Colgate

18%

increase in purchase lift with **Creator Partnership ads**

#BACKTOSCHOOL



#INDIANCARS

#GRWM

#SOFTGIRL

MAC

2.5X

higher VTR with **Creator Partnership ads**

#SUMMERDRINKS

#VISIONBOARDS

#TRAVELVLOG

#OUTFITFROMSCRATCH

crocs™

1.3X

branded query lift with **Creator Partnership ads**

#HAUL

#THRIFTING

Brands, scan for an expert consult

BENGALURU, MONDAY, JUNE 30, 2025 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 30 | Min 20 | Humidity 65% Generally cloudy sky with Light rain Sensex 84,058 | Nifty 25,637 | Gold 97,420 | Silver 1,07,800 | Dollar 85.47 | Euro 100.55 | GBP 117.55

Monday morning special: Yes it may feel like traffic is the worst on the first day of the week, but we are here to tell you that numbers reveal that the load has shifted to another day — Wednesdays are now in chokehold of congestion

FEELS LIKE MID-WEEK CRISIS

Hybrid model requiring employees to come into office leads to 127% more congestion on Wednesdays in 2025 as compared to last year

Sanjana CS
c-sanjana.s@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

For years, Mondays have been synonymous with mega traffic jams in Bengaluru But now, Wednesdays are stealing the spotlight and not in a good way. If you've been stuck on Outer Ring Road, Old Airport Road or Hosur Road on a Wednesday lately, you're not alone.

Commuters say a rise of hybrid work models has caused this new midweek madness on city's roads. With most tech companies allowing employees to work from home on Mondays and Fridays, many are choosing to return to the city or office midweek. The result? Wednesday traffic is now as intense or worse than Monday mornings used to be.

This has been compounded by the bike taxi ban that lead to an increase in vehicles such as autos and cabs on Tuesday and Wednesday, resulting in jump in congestion from 18% to 22%, which decreases to 16% on Thursday.

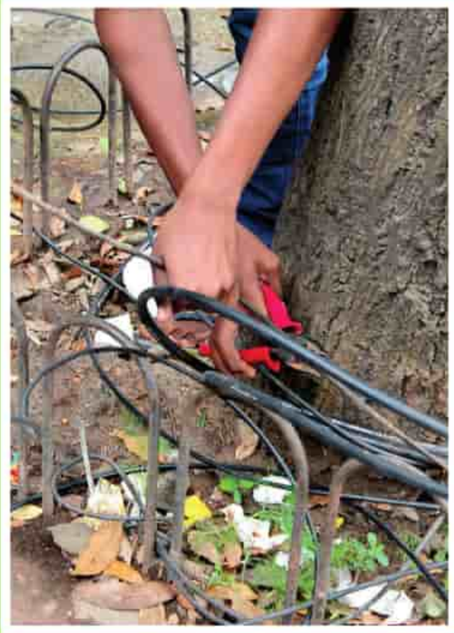
"It feels like the whole city hits the road on Wednesdays," says Anusha R, a tech professional from Whitefield. "Many companies following the hybrid work model usually ask employees to come in on Tuesdays or Wednesdays because it comes in the middle of weekdays, which is one of the main reasons for the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

CITY / PAGE 4

OPTICAL ILLUSION

Two years after imposing restrictions, BBMP decides to allow companies to lay optical cable fibres at a cost of Rs 600 per metre



ETHICS IN HEALTHCARE '25
25th September, 2025 | 9am Onwards
ITC, Gardenia, Bengaluru
HAPPIEST HEALTH
Better Knowledge. Better Health.
Dr Paul Salins
MD & VP, Mazumdar Shaw Cancer Center & Narayana Hrudayalaya Multispecialty Hospital
Scan to Avail Early Bird Passes
Dr Sanjay Mehrotra
Senior Consultant Cardiologist at Narayana Institute of Cardiac Sciences, Bangalore
Ashok Soota
Executive Chairman, Happiest Minds
Rajiv Khaitan
Senior Partner, Khaitan & Co
Putting Ethics At The Heart Of Healthcare
Platinum Partner
happiest minds The Mindful IT Company
Born Digital . Born Agile
Got questions? WhatsApp or email us on +91 9071 007 520 summits@happiesthealth.com

THINGS TO DO

01 Healing heritage

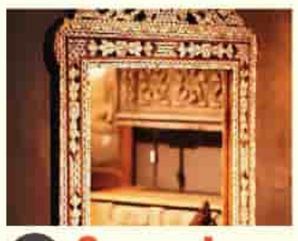
Indian Institute of World Culture is hosting a unique and thought-provoking exhibition as part of a continuing effort to commemorate Doctors' Day by exploring India's rich healing heritage. **Where: Indian Institute of World Culture, Basavanagudi; When: July 1 to 4, 10 am to 7 pm**

02 Celebrating womanhood

Acclaimed contemporary artist Sima Patel is presenting her solo exhibition titled 'NAARITVA'. The exhibition features a striking collection of over 40 artworks, each celebrating the spirit, strength, and soulful journey of womanhood. **Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Seshadripuram; When: June 25 to June 30, 10.30 am to 6.30 pm**

03 Literary journey

Urban Solace Café is hosting Sumedha Shukla, an independent writer and artist, for this 'Tuesdays with the Bard @ Urban Solace' edition. **Where: Urban Solace Café, Ulsoor; When: July 1, 7.30 pm**



04 Carved perfection

The Purple Turtles is presenting 'A Festival of Mirrors', a curated showcase of sculptural, handcrafted mirrors that celebrate heritage, form, and function. **Where: The Purple Turtles, Indiranagar; When: June 25 to July 9, 10.30 am to 8 pm**

05 Canvas calling

Sublime Galleria is presenting 'Ethereal Charm' by Niladri Ghosh, encompassing forests and wildlife. Ghosh uses his art to highlight the importance of protecting nature. **Where: Sublime Galleria, UB City; When: June 13 to July 6**

BU's development claims hundreds of trees annually

Environmentalists argue that land encroachments at campus violate SC's Godavarman judgment, which classifies ecologically sensitive or forest-like areas as protected

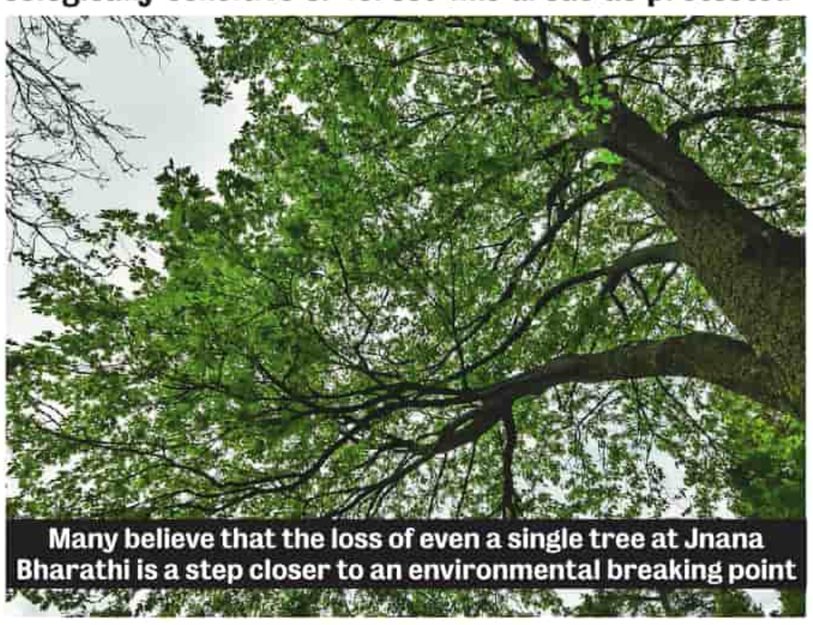
Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Over the past three decades, Bengaluru has lost an average of 600 trees every year within the Jnana Bharathi campus alone — a staggering 18,000 trees in total — as successive 'development' projects continue to chip away at one of the city's last remaining green lungs.

Now, Bangalore University (BU) is preparing to fell another 419 trees in its lush Jnana Bharathi campus to make way for an academic and research complex under the PM-USHA scheme. The proposal, which has drawn sharp criticism from environmentalists and local residents, threatens a critical biodiversity hotspot and comes at a time when the city's tree cover has already shrunk alarmingly.

Once boasting 70% green cover in 1973, Bengaluru's vegetation plunged to just 3% by 2023. Environmental experts say this is a major factor in the city's rising temperatures — from a once-moderate 33–34°C to current highs of 41°C during summer months — and the sharp fall in groundwater levels.

Sources said that 6.5-acre parcel earmarked for construction in Survey No 6 is home to over 400 mature trees, many of which are 30–40 years old. These include diverse native species which provide habitat to countless birds, butterflies, and small mammals. Nearly 4,000 people visit the area daily for walking and breathing fresh air — a rare privilege in the increasingly concrete-dominated city.



Many believe that the loss of even a single tree at Jnana Bharathi is a step closer to an environmental breaking point

Campus under siege

The latest plan is just one amongst several that threaten the green expanse. The Higher Education Department has sought 200–300 acres for a new UGC building. The Social Welfare Department has proposed an Ambedkar Theme Park on 25 acres. Now, even the university itself has approached BBMP seeking clearance to axe 419 trees. Environmentalists argue that such encroachments violate the Supreme Court's Godavarman judgment, which classifies any ecologically sensitive or forest-like area as protected, even if not officially recorded as forest land.

Dr AN Yellappa Reddy, a retired forest officer, pointed out that Jnana Bharathi is classified as a sandalwood-protected forest. "Without de-notification, felling trees here is illegal," he said, adding that biodiversity-rich areas like this must be conserved at all costs. An environmentalist said, "Jnana Bharathi is not just land — it's a breathing forest. The government should first reclaim the 75 acres of encroached forest land instead of building on what's left of our ecological wealth." The environmentalist highlighted that as the city faces a harsh summer and worsening pollution, many believe that the loss of even a single tree at Jnana Bharathi is a step closer to an environmental breaking point.

> **"Jnana Bharathi is not just land — it's a breathing forest. The government should first reclaim the 75 acres of encroached forest land instead of building on what's left of our ecological wealth** – Environmentalist

HC demands remission policy for good behaviour

The Karnataka High Court has instructed the state government to establish guidelines clarifying eligibility criteria for remission based on good behaviour, discipline, and institutional activity participation, as per Section 166 (1) (e) of the Prison Manual. The court granted a petition by prisoner Arun Kumar Alva, invalidating the endorsement dated April 28, 2025, from the Chief Superintendent of Bengaluru Central Prison. The authority had denied the remission request because no work was assigned due to the Chief Medical Officer declaring the petitioner 'Not fit for work'.

The petitioner's counsel argued that authorities typically do not differentiate between remission requests under Section 166 (i) (e) or (f) of the manual. Additionally, records for Section 166 (i) (e) grounds are generally not maintained, resulting in such remission requests being overlooked. For reference, Section 166 (i) clause (e) concerns remission based on 'good behaviour, discipline and participation in institutional activities', distinct from clause (f) which addresses 'performance of work allotted and prescribed standards'.

"Taking note of such submission, it would be appropriate to direct the authorities to pass office orders or guidelines to ensure clarity as regards remission when claimed under Section 166 (i) (e). Further clarity is to be made as regards the reference to 'participation in institutional activities' as per Prison Regulations," the court said, adding that this would go a long way in ensuring that those who claim remission under Section 166 (i) (e) of the manual would also be afforded relief. **— BMB**

Workload remains heavy despite appointment of guest lecturers

Despite the appointment of guest lecturers, government Pre-University (PU) colleges in Karnataka continue to face a severe faculty shortage, disrupting academic activities. Of the 11,550 sanctioned teaching posts in 1,232 PU colleges, 4,689 are filled by guest lecturers. However, many colleges remain understaffed, with appointments not matching the actual workload. Guest lecturers are officially assigned just 10 hours a week for Rs 14,000 per month, but in reality, many handle over 20 hours and take on administrative duties without additional pay. This has led to frequent protests, affecting class schedules and the overall quality of education.

Students, especially in rural areas, are struggling due to the lack of consistent faculty. In some colleges, just two or three lecturers are expected to cover all subjects, often without adequate expertise. Sources said that many guest lecturers join late in the academic year, rushing through the syllabus and leaving students unprepared. Lecturers and students alike have voiced concerns that unless the government fills permanent posts and offers fair compensation, the quality of education in PU colleges will continue to decline. **— BMB**

Bengaluru celebrates Rainbow Festival 2025

Around 200 people, including gender and sexual minority community members and their supporters, celebrated Rainbow Festival 2025 with music and dance, marking the 56th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, at the Students' Christian Movement of India (SCMI) auditorium in the city on Saturday.

Speaking at the Rainbow Festival, Mahesh Babu, Managing Director, Karnataka State Women's Development Corporation, emphasised the importance of developing public policies for the holistic development of gender and sexual minorities. "At this time, our community in the USA, the land of the Stonewall Riots, is losing its hard-won rights. We must be vigilant and constantly fight for our rights on the streets and in the courts," said Mahesh Babu, adding that he would extend full support in this direction.

Manohar Elavarthi, Founder and Executive Director of Sangama, said that at a time when sexual minorities in the United States face growing setbacks for their rights, the sexual minorities in India must stay vigilant. "We must continue to fight for our rights, both on the streets and in the courts," said Elavarthi .

Sonu Niranjan, a transgender man, opined that the society has begun acknowledging transgender women but transgender men are still not receiving the freedom and opportunities they deserve. "If this needs to change, the government must recognise and understand our community," said Niranjan.

Mothers who accepted their transgender children or adopted children who were transgender were felicitated on the occasion. Asha Imam Saab Naik Wadi, mother of Aina Sheikh (a gender minority woman) from Belgaum district, said "Aina, a gender minority woman, has been living in Pune for many years and is now doing farming in our house in Belgaum and helping other gender minority communities."

"My beloved youngest son Paru used to act like a girl from a young age and even now Paru is the one who runs our house," said Lakshmi, the mother of Paru, another gender minority woman from Bangalore. Siddappa Hukkeri from Belgaum, who got a government job under the 1 per cent reservation, was also felicitated.

The programme ended with slogans that highlighted the community's fight for justice and their rights. **— BMB**

CBSE invites self-nominations for National Awards to Teachers 2024–25

CBSE has called for self-nominations from eligible teachers and principals of its affiliated private independent schools (excluding KVS, NVS, Sainik Schools, and EMRS) for the National Awards to Teachers 2024–25, conferred by the Ministry of Education. Teachers must have completed 10 years of service, and principals must have served 10 years as a teacher and 5 years as a principal in CBSE-affiliated schools by 31st March 2025. Retirees post-31st March 2025 are also eligible. Applications must be submitted online by 6th July 2025 at https://cbseit.in/cbse/2025/tchawrd/index.aspx with all required documents, including service certificates and academic records.

UVCE Bengaluru invites applications for guest faculty in Civil Engineering

The University of Visvesvaraya College of Engineering (UVCE), Bengaluru, is inviting applications for Guest Faculty positions in Geo-Technical Engineering, Environmental Engineering, and Water Resource Engineering for the academic year 2025–26. Eligible candidates with MTech or PhD qualifications in the relevant disciplines, as per AICTE norms, can download the application form from www.uvce.karnataka.gov.in and submit it along with required documents to the Registrar, UVCE, K. R. Circle, Bengaluru – 560001, by July 8. For further information, candidates may contact the Chairperson, Department of Civil Engineering, UVCE, Jnanabharathi Campus.

CBSE invites entries for July 2025 Edition of e-Magazine

CBSE has invited original student submissions for the July 2025 issue of Sapno Ki Udaan, NCERT's e-magazine, themed "My Colourful Summer Vacation: A Season of Stories, Sunshine and Self-Discovery." Contributions—ranging from writing and art to photography and reflections—must align with the theme and be submitted via the provided Google Form.

For details, visit submission link or email e-magazine@cbseshiksha.in.

Teachers fret as glitches mar student tracking system app

Failure to receive OTPs required for logging into app and uploading info is big problem

Teachers across Karnataka are increasingly frustrated by the technical issues plaguing the Student Achievement Tracking System (SATS) app introduced by the Department of Education. While the app is intended to streamline daily school operations such as student admissions, transfer certificates (TCs), and teacher attendance, poor network connectivity and server delays have made the system a burden rather than a boon.

Usage of the SATS app has been made mandatory for teachers. However, in many remote areas where internet access is poor, completing essential tasks through the app has become nearly impossible. As a result, both teachers and students, along with parents, are facing significant challenges.

One of the major issues reported is the failure to receive OTPs (One-Time Passwords), which are required for logging into the app and uploading critical information such as student data or issuing TCs. Teachers claim that the OTPs either do not arrive at all or are delayed by hours, disrupting classes and administrative work. In some cases, teachers are forced to interrupt lessons just to check for OTP messages on their phones.

A teacher said, "Daily updates related to the midday meal scheme — such as the number of eggs and bananas distributed to students — must also be uploaded to the app by 11.30 am. However, server issues often prevent timely uploads. Additionally, teachers are required to upload the same information on both the state and central government portals, further compounding the workload." Due to recurring OTP issues, teachers often resort to admitting students or issuing TCs offline and later updating the data once the system is accessible. This delay results in considerable loss of time and productivity.

Adding to their woes, teachers have been asked to use their own mobile phones for all school-related app usage. "They report receiving video instructions on how to navigate the app but no formal training has been provided. Nor have any funds been allocated for this purpose. In many schools, the principal's phone has become the school's official device, leading to further complications," said another teacher.

Teachers say that although the tasks assigned through the app could be completed in about half an hour under ideal conditions, technical glitches often stretch these tasks to three or four hours daily. A senior education deparment official acknowledged the issues and said that the department is working on resolving them.

Attention NEET Repeaters 2026!

Discover the environment that turns efforts in to results

What does a serious NEET repeater truly need for their second attempt?

Not just good coaching - but the right environment. One that ensures focus, structure, and consistency every single day.

That's why Karnataka's most preferred fully-integrated residential NEET 2026 repeater program is changing how students approach their second attempt - with full-time academic guidance, round-the-clock mentoring, and a tightly structured routine.

Many students find it difficult to maintain momentum on their own - not because of lack of effort, but because of missing structure.

Even the most hardworking child can lose direction without external guidance. And that's exactly what most home or tuition-based setups fail to provide.

More and more parents are realising this - sometimes after a painful year of trying everything else.

Here, nothing is left to chance. No student falls through the cracks. And no parent is left wondering **"Did I miss a better option?"**

In association with India's most trusted NEET institute - ALLEN - The Academic City offers a focused, distraction-free residential NEET repeater campus, designed to help students prepare smarter, not just harder.

What makes the ALLEN + The Academic City program unique?

- ✓ 6 hours of focused classes + 3 hours of supervised self-study every day
- ✓ On-campus ALLEN faculty for instant doubt-solving
- ✓ Separate air-conditioned hostels for boys and girls with 24×7 security
- ✓ Trained mentors, wardens, and full-time emotional wellness staff
- ✓ Nutritious vegetarian and Jain food
- ✓ Regular academic + wellness reports sent to parents

This is not like every other coaching center.

It's a fully monitored, high-discipline ecosystem — built to help sincere repeaters give their second attempt everything they've got.

ALLEN BENGALURU | The Academic City

What do Parents say?

"We had tried everything — tutors, mocks, strict timetables - but my son still lacked clarity and consistency. At The Academic City, he finally has a routine that works. I only wish we had chosen this earlier."

– Mrs. Rekha S., Parent from Hubballi

Karnataka's most preferred residential NEET repeaters program

Currently, the **ALLEN + The Academic City academic excellence program** is Karnataka's only integrated **NEET repeater residential campus** - where expert faculty, structured coaching, and complete boarding come together under one roof.

⚠ But here's what most parents realise too late - These kinds of programs have limited seats.

Only 30 seats remain for the 2026 batch. Classes begin July 5, 2025.

Register now and unlock up to 90% scholarship

Call: 080 4588 9093

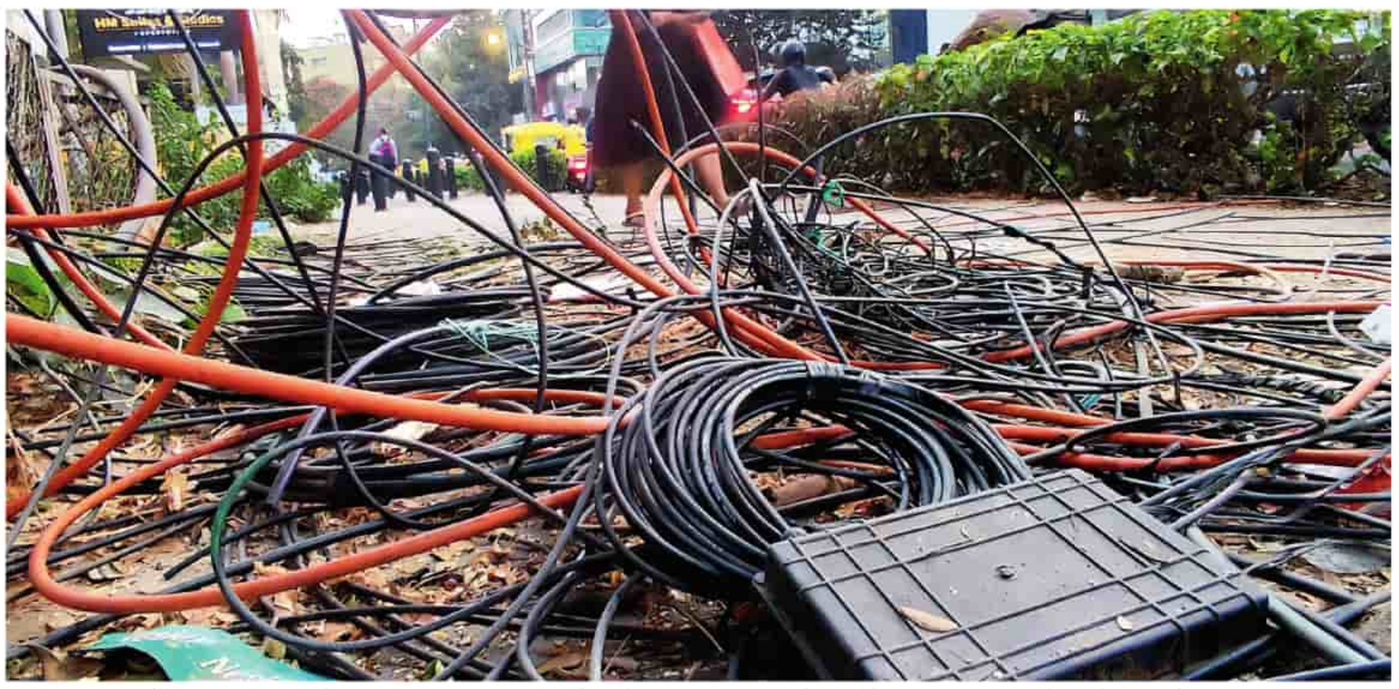
Pre-book your visit now before slots fill up!

BBMP eases ban on optical fibre cable laying

With tariff demands being met, civic body gives green signal to telecom companies; revised tariff structure is expected to significantly boost revenue generation

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has decided to relax the restrictions it had imposed on laying Optical Fibre Cables (OFC), crucial for mobile connectivity and IT-BT sector operations. This decision comes after a hiatus of nearly two years. Earlier, several companies had damaged newly laid roads while installing OFC lines, leading to widespread public criticism. In response, BBMP had suspended permissions and even revoked previously granted approvals to enforce stricter protocols. With the latest decision, the civic body is now stepping back from that rigid stance.



While OFC infrastructure is indispensable to digital functioning, their haphazard presence on roads and footpaths tarnishes the city's aesthetics and creates a public safety concern

Push from telecom companies

Telecom companies had been consistently appealing to the BBMP to allow resumption of OFC works. These companies, following central government guidelines, had proposed a nominal fee of Rs 1 per metre for OFC laying. However, BBMP had rejected the proposal, demanding Rs 600 per metre instead—a condition now accepted by telecom operators. The revised tariff structure is expected to significantly boost BBMP's revenue, which had been slipping due to stalled approvals.

Illegal cables across city

Following the ban, unauthorised cable networks have proliferated across the city. OFCs are now seen dangerously strung from pole to pole and tree to tree, posing serious hazards to pedestrians and motorists.

According to BMBP data, between 2012 and 2025, a total of 15,007.65 kilometres of optical fiber cable has been laid across the city, generating a cumulative revenue of Rs 1,129.14 crore

While OFC infrastructure is indispensable to the digital functioning of mobile users, IT companies, software firms, and commercial establishments, their haphazard presence on roads and footpaths is marring the city's aesthetics and public safety. The current move to regulate and approve installations aims to both streamline the process and generate legitimate income for the BBMP.

Clearing unauthorised cables

Sources said that the responsibility for removing unauthorised cables has now been assigned to assistant and junior engineers at the ward level. On arterial and sub-arterial roads, engineers from the road infrastructure and planning divisions are tasked with the clearance. However, enforcement remains a challenge. Even when one company receives official approval for duct installation, 3–4 other entities are found illegally laying cables in the same ducts. To address this, BBMP had constructed 130 km of ducts under TenderSure roads to avoid road cutting. Of this, only 60 km of ducts have legal cabling, with fees paid.

OFCs laid over years

According to BMBP data, between 2012 and 2025, a total of 15,007.65 kilometres of optical fiber cable has been laid across the city, generating a cumulative revenue of Rs 1,129.14 crore. The most significant installation took place in 2014–15 with 2,978.60 km of cable, resulting in Rs 137.64 crore in revenue. This was followed by 2,105.48 km in 2016–17 (Rs 167.06 crore) and 1,837.30 km in 2021–22 (Rs 162.01 crore). In contrast, the year 2023–24 saw a steep drop, with only 133.71 km laid and Rs 11.73 crore collected, while 2024–25, so far, has recorded just 22.91 km and Rs 3.05 crore. The initial years, particularly 2012–13 and 2013–14, saw modest laying activity (71.35 km and 1,099.84 km respectively) but steady revenue growth.

Mahadevapura constituency gets new ambulance services

Each ambulance is fitted with critical, life-saving equipment that will be helpful during 'golden hour' in critical emergencies

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Two ambulance services were launched on Saturday to provide first aid and take patients to the nearest hospitals in and around Kasavanahalli near Bellandur and Haraluru in Mahadevapura Assembly constituency. It is the third ambulance service in Mahadevapura Assembly constituency. An ambulance service was launched at Green Glen Layout in August 2024 by Manipal Hospital.

The ambulance service is expected to cut down critical wait time during an emergency

Former MLA Aravind Limbavali launched the ambulance services at Haralur and Kasavanahalli.

The residents of Haraluru and Kasavanahalli welcomed the launch of the much-needed ambulance services. "The Manipal Ambulance Response Services (MARS), a 24/7 ambulance service at Green Glen Layout has been a boon for the residents," said Sobha Mayflower Association President Vinod Agarwal.

"The traffic on the roads becomes a hurdle for ambulance vehicles that are parked at hospitals to reach the patient on time. It will be great if similar ambulance services are started at other areas in Mahadevapura Assembly constituency," said Sudharshan Shastry, a resident of Owners Court Layout.

Each ambulance is fitted with critical, life-saving equipment that will be helpful during the 'golden hour' in critical emergencies.

"In Bengaluru traffic it will take a minimum of 45 minutes to an hour during peak hours to get an ambulance. During a critical emergency the first hour is the golden hour and needs immediate aid," said Amaresh Lakshminarayana, a resident of Green Glen Layout, adding that the availability of ambulance services in the area can help in significantly cutting down response time.

How to request for an ambulance during an emergency

In an emergency, follow these steps to request access:

- Visit https://qr1.be/NCXW
- Select 'Yes, share my location'
- You will be prompted to continue the chat on WhatsApp
- Click on 'Continue to chat'
- A message containing your location will be shared
- Immediately after, you will receive a call from the Ambulance ERT (Emergency Response Team), and they will dispatch an ambulance
- Alternatively, you can directly WhatsApp +916366447744 or call 08022221111

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

Shoddy work
JP Nagar

In JP Nagar 24th Main Road, the freshly completed TenderSURE project is already drawing flak due to substandard work, with flaws surfacing just days after completion.

Unfinished construction
Varthur Kodi

The flyover at Varthur Kodi remains incomplete, leaving commuters to navigate chaos and congestion with no clear timeline for its finish.

Traffic woes
Jakkur

Traffic at the Jakkur railway crossing is in constant gridlock, thanks to the sluggish pace of overbridge construction—now a looming safety hazard for daily commuters.

Drug bust crash kills cop

A 40-year-old sub-inspector attached to the Talaghattapura police station succumbed to injuries four days after being hit by a speeding truck in an accident near Chandapura. PSI Mahboob Guddalli was standing behind a parked car on the roadside, when a truck rammed into it. The impact threw the car forward and left him injured. Two constables accompanying him, Tulasidas and Sanna Jadeyappa, narrowly escaped. Waseem and Ameer, the suspects seated in the rear of the vehicle, fled in the chaos. Based on a complaint by head constable Tulasidas (witness,) Surya Nagar police have registered a case against the absconding truck driver and the two fleeing suspects, Waseem and Ameer.

Fake brand: Jeans seized

Police busted an illegal jeans manufacturing unit operating out of a godown in Bylakonenahalli under the Madanayakanahalli police limits on Saturday. The unit, functioning without any valid license under the name AA Fashions, was found producing counterfeit jeans with labels of top brands including Puma, Nike, Levi's, Follo, and Rolls-Royce Lauren. Fake stock worth over ₹30 lakh was seized during the raid.

A case has been registered under the Copyright Act at Madanayakanahalli police station, and further investigation is underway.

CRIME FILES

Murder over grudge: 3 held

Three youths, including a juvenile, have been arrested by the Amruthahalli police for allegedly bludgeoning a 35-year-old man to death over an old grudge.

The victim, Anjinappa, a man with cognitive difficulties who did odd jobs, was found dead near Manyata Tech Park. Initially treated as an accidental fall, a post-mortem revealed a fatal head injury, prompting a murder investigation. Further probe led police to Premkumar (18), Darshan Nanjunda (20), and a minor. Anjinappa had allegedly assaulted Premkumar months earlier over a theft attempt. Seeking revenge, the trio, drunk on the night, attacked him with a club and coconut husk.

Chase: Wildlife smuggling bust

Bengaluru Urban Division forest officials, along with the vigilance team, intercepted a car near the Bannerghatta-NICE Road junction and discovered four dead spotted deer and one dead wild boar. Interrogation of the accused, Pratap (31), led authorities to a shed in CK Palya, where another car and a motorcycle belonging to co-accused Balaraju were found. The shed, owned by Bhimappa and managed by absconding accused Ramesh, contained 74 kg of meat, two firearms, 10 cartridges, knives, weighing machines, and a spotted deer skin. A wildlife offence report has been filed, and post-mortem procedures and evidence collection are complete. Further investigation is underway to trace the origin of the crime.

Lorry-scooter crash claims 1

A woman was killed and two others, including a child, were injured after a speeding cement bulker lorry rammed into a scooter at the Nice Road entry near Veerabhadranagar Junction in Nayandahalli on Sunday afternoon.

The deceased has been identified as Renuka GN (52), a resident of BDA Layout, Basaveshwaranagar. The injured are Kusuma (32) and her 9-year-old son Mokshit, who were riding pillion. According to police, the incident occurred around 1.03 pm while the trio were en route to a temple. The accused driver, Goverdhan (32), was reportedly speeding and driving recklessly. At a bend, the lorry crashed into their scooter from behind.

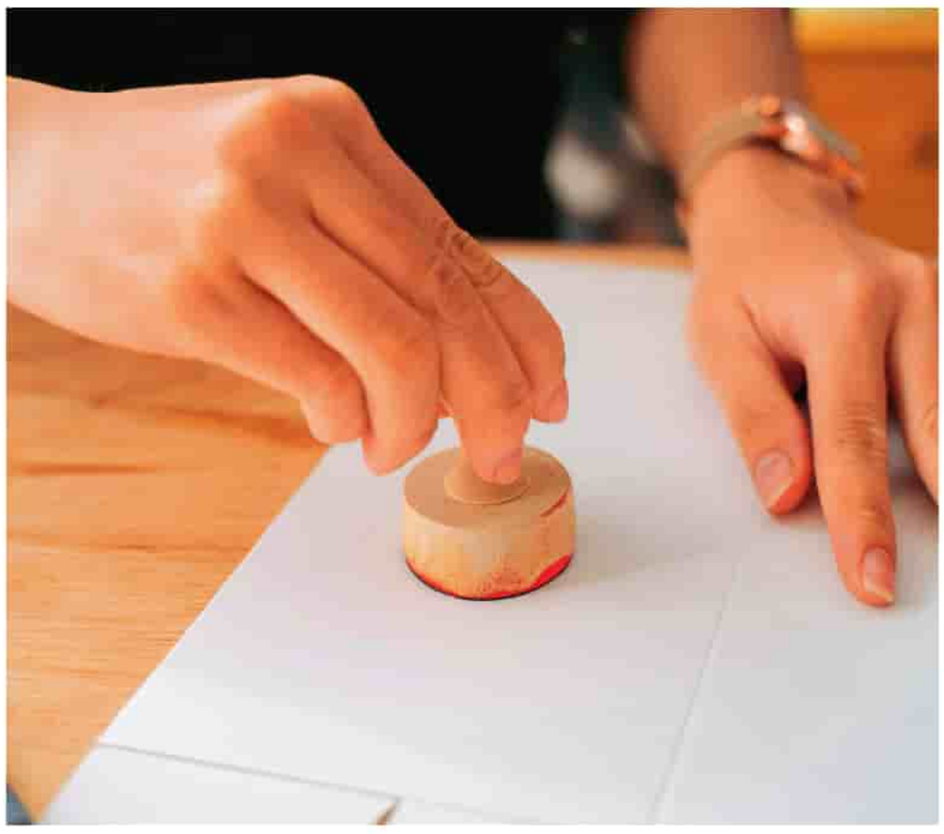
Officer held responsible for NRI's illegal detention

Businessman faces detention despite court stay; Human Rights Commission orders ₹2 lakh compensation from former inspector

Atiya Firdos
c-syeda.atiya@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

The Karnataka State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) has held ACP Mary Shailaja (former inspector) guilty of negligence that led to the wrongful detention of a 50-year-old NRI businessman at Mumbai airport in 2019. The Commission has recommended that the state government pay ₹2 lakh as compensation to the victim and recover the same from Shailaja's salary.

The incident dates back to February 19, 2019, when the victim, Krishnaprasad, a UK-based businessman, was detained at the airport due to an outdated Look Out Circular (LOC) issued in connection with a 2016 dowry harassment case registered by the Halasuru Gate Women Police Station. Although Krishnaprasad had been granted bail and had obtained a stay order from the High Court, the LOC remained active because police failed to revise it annually, as required.



The LOC was issued in 2019; the victim gets a stay order in 2022

> "As per procedure, the police are required to inform the immigration authorities whether the person is still needed for investigation
> –Sources

Abuse despite court order, financial loss for victim

Immigration authorities, after flagging Krishnaprasad's entry, had reached out to the concerned police station for clarification. Instead of sharing updated case details, an email was sent from the official ID of Mary Shailaja stating that Krishnaprasad was still "wanted" and should be handed over to the assigned personnel for further investigation. This email was later submitted as evidence during the probe.

A police team was then dispatched to secure his arrest and even instructed his family to arrange air tickets to bring him to Bengaluru. Despite Krishnaprasad showing them the High Court order, the officers verbally abused and humiliated him. He was released after 34 hours and asked to report to the station the next day.

"As per procedure, the police are required to inform the immigration authorities whether the person is still needed for investigation. However, in this case, they responded saying he was still required, despite the stay order. Due to this, he was detained for 34 hours. This was a case of negligence," sources said while speaking to BM.

Krishnaprasad incurred a loss of ₹57,000 on the cancelled UK ticket and had to rebook another for ₹66,000. He later approached the SHRC through his family. During the inquiry, the Commission confirmed that the police had failed to update the LOC, leading to the wrongful detention and harassment. It also noted the misleading email sent under Shailaja's authority as key evidence.

While the family had also alleged that money was demanded to update the LOC, the charge could not be substantiated due to a lack of evidence. "The LOC was originally issued in 2019, and the victim had obtained stay orders in 2022. When he attempted to travel in 2022, the LOC was still active as it had not been renewed or updated, which is supposed to be done every year," sources said while speaking to BM.

Early legal lessons for students

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Moot Courts play an important role in helping law students develop practical legal skills. While they are typically found in law colleges, there has been no such platform for pre-university (PU) students aspiring to enter the legal field. In a first for Karnataka, a school-based Moot Courtroom was inaugurated on Saturday at Winmore Academy, Jakkur, offering young students early exposure to legal practice.

The Moot Courtroom serves as an extension of the CBSE Legal Studies curriculum for Grades 11 and 12, creating an authentic legal environment where students can engage with real-world scenarios. By simulating actual courtroom dynamics, this facility encourages critical thinking, articulation, and legal reasoning skills that are essential to form the foundation of effective citizenship and professional excellence.

"This pioneering initiative reflects our commitment to innovation in education, where theoretical knowledge meets practical application. The Moot Courtroom embodies our philosophy of creating future-ready learners who are equipped not just with academic knowledge but with the skills to navigate and contribute meaningfully to society. Approximately 150-200 students from Grades 9, 10, and 11 witnessed this historic moment, marking the beginning of a new era in school-based legal education," says Husien Dohadwalla, Co-CEO, Crimson Schools.

The inauguration was graced by Vivek K Chandy, Joint Managing Partner of JSA Advocates & Solicitors. Appreciating the innovative approach, he says: "This moot courtroom represents a visionary step towards nurturing the next generation of legal minds and informed citizens. By providing students with hands-on experience in legal proceedings at such a formative stage, Winmore Academy is not just teaching law; it is instilling critical thinking, ethical reasoning, and the confidence to advocate for justice."

The Moot Courtroom is designed to provide students with hands-on experience in legal proceedings, enabling them to understand the intricacies of the judicial system through active participation. Students engaged in structured debates, presented arguments, examined witnesses, and experienced the full spectrum of courtroom procedures.

For students considering careers in law, public service, or any field requiring strong analytical and communication skills, this facility provides invaluable early exposure to legal thinking and courtroom dynamics.

Thanking the management for introducing the Moot Courtroom, Bhumika KV, an 11th-grade student, said that she was very happy with the management introducing the Moot Courtroom. "My dream is to become a lawyer. I come from a family with a legal background. My parents are lawyers. It has always fascinated me. And I feel like every new legal studies class that I attend, I feel like one step closer to my dream," said Bhumika.

Moot Courtroom enhances CBSE legal studies with exposure

Bike taxi riders launch hunger strike across Karnataka

Hundreds of bike taxi riders began an indefinite hunger strike on Sunday across Bengaluru, Mysuru, Davangere, Mandya, and Ramanagara, demanding the Karnataka government lift the ban on app-based bike taxi services. Organised by the Bike Taxi Welfare Association, the protest included the submission of an open letter to CM Siddaramaiah and Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy, urging immediate policy intervention.

The riders cited severe financial distress, with many having lost their primary source of income after the High Court upheld the ban earlier this month. They called the ban unjust, highlighting the contradiction of allowing delivery services but not passenger rides on two-wheelers. —BMB

Traffic congestion is 22% on Wednesday, 16% on Thursday

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

midweek traffic congestion."

Traffic police officials in Whitefield have observed this changing pattern as well. ACP (Traffic) Ramesh told Bangalore Mirror, "Earlier, we used to deploy additional personnel on Mondays. But over the past year, traffic congestion on Wednesdays has consistently surpassed Monday levels, especially in areas like Marathahalli, Bellandur, and Silk Board, ORR. Now, the pattern is shifting again. Some companies have ended the work-from-home option entirely, requiring employees to work from the office throughout the week, which has led to increased congestion on all days. Additionally, many companies following the hybrid model ask employees to come in on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, with Wednesday being the most common in-office day. This has significantly contributed to the mid-week traffic surge."

Traffic officials spoke about the challenges involved. "It's kind of challenging as the volume of vehicles keeps increasing and there are ongoing BMRCL projects. All this adds to the congestion," said an official.

Data from the Bengaluru Traffic Management Centre shows a noticeable spike in vehicular movement between 8 am to 11 am and again from 5 pm to 8 pm sometimes more than 8 pm on Wednesdays. Data compiled by the Traffic Police and the Outer Ring Road Companies Association (ORRCA) shows up to a 45% increase in weekday private vehicle movement across 26 major tech parks stretching from Central Silk Board to KR Puram between June 2024 and June 2025.

Traffic data reveals a significant jump in both vehicle entries and congestion levels from June 2024 to June 2025 on Wednesdays. Vehicle entry increased from 82,168 in June 2024 to 118,940 in June 2025, which is a substantial 45% rise. This considerable increase in vehicles corresponded with a sharp escalation in congestion. The average congestion level on Wednesdays climbed from 997.5 km in June 2024 to 2,267.4 km in June 2025, indicating a 127% increase.

Meanwhile on Tuesdays, there was a noticeable increase in both vehicle entry and congestion levels between June 2024 and June 2025. The average congestion level on Tuesdays soared from 643.7 km in June 2024 to a staggering 1,852.4 km in June 2025, marking an increase of 188%.

Why is this happening? The answer lies in the evolving work culture. With the hybrid model now standard across IT hubs, many employees extend their weekends in their hometowns and return to Bengaluru by Tuesday night. As a result, Wednesday has unofficially become the new "first day at work" for many.

A Whitefield resident told BM, "I have been here for the past seven years and I observed that after the work shifted to work from home, now companies expect employees to come to the office once a week. Wednesdays it becomes congested as many travel back. Earlier I used to leave 30 minutes early to the office but now I need to leave 50 minutes early, only to get stuck in traffic."

But it's not just techies who are affected. Delivery personnel, cab drivers, and even school buses are getting caught in the crossfire of this midweek madness.

3 arrested for lecturer's murder

The Chintamani Rural Police have arrested three men, two brothers and their friend, for the brutal murder of a 31-year-old lecturer, whose body was found tied with a boulder and dumped in a well in Kempadevanahalli last week.

The victim, Ramanji Shivappa, a resident of Rampura village in Chintamani, had told his family he was leaving for London on June 18. But when he failed to return, his brother Vishwanatha grew suspicious and later identified Ramanji's body, recovered from the well on Monday, by his clothes.

Investigation revealed that Ramanji had recently resigned from his teaching job at a private college in Yelahanka after being lured with promises of a high-paying job in the UK by the prime accused, Sudhakar, an employee of a private finance firm.

Ramanji had reportedly given Sudhakar ₹15 lakh to arrange for the job and visa. But after spending the money on personal indulgences, Sudhakar began evading him. Police said Sudhakar conspired with his younger brother Manoj, a colleague at the same firm, and their friend Manjunatha, a vegetable market labourer, to eliminate Ramanji. On the pretext of taking him to the airport, they drove him to a secluded area in Kempadevanahalli, strangled him, gagged his mouth, tied his limbs, and dumped the body in a well with a boulder fastened to his back. They then burnt his luggage to erase evidence and returned home, pretending they had dropped him off for his flight.

HC praises communal harmony of Hyd-K'taka border area

The High Court has praised the exemplary communal harmony displayed by residents in the Hyderabad-Karnataka border region. The court noted, "The salvation of the country lies in identifying human beings as a human being and as an Indian with the other identities playing a secondary role."

Justice MI Arun highlighted that Yadgiri District, situated in the Hyderabad Karnataka area, demonstrates remarkable religious unity, with both Hindu and Muslim communities actively participating in each other's festivals.

The court stated, "The institutions like Sharanabasaveshwar Temple, Khaja Bandanawaz Dargah, are examples of the communal harmony, which can be followed by the entire country...In tune with the communal harmony, Muharram festival of the Muslim community is also celebrated by Hindus, wherein certain Hindu Deities are also worshipped by both Muslims and Hindus during the festival."

The observations came during a hearing of a petition by Madiga Dandora, which detailed how in Tumkur village, Vadagera Taluk of Yadgiri district, a Hindu Deity called Kashimalli receives worship from both faiths, and Muharram celebrations include the folk dance 'Alai Bhosai Kunitha' performed near the village temple. BMB

Your Connect

jobs

SITUATION VACANT

ACADEMIC

TEACHER

KENNETH GEORGE English School, Primary Teachers and Computer Teacher for Middle School, email: Kennethgeorgeschool@gmail.com or Ph: 8971844272

real estate

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

HSR LAYOUT

FOR Sale 2BHK,2 balcony apartment HSR Layout A khatha property, parking and other amenities...Price 1.1 cr Contact; v3 group 97403 08533.

PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

COMMERCIAL PREMISES

RENT
2000 SQFT COMMERCIAL SPACE
@ AXIS CITRINO, Ground Floor, Kodichikkanahalli Main Road, Bommanahalli.
FACILITIES:
- Water Connection
- Electricity: 17KW 3 phase
- 600 SQFT Dedicated Open Parking Space

Contact: 98441 55650

INDUSTRIAL PREMISES

Sale 1 Acres 14 Guntas Industrial Conversion LAND at Bidadi, Bangalore Mysore Road 7019708767 9844125465

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I Safaa Fathima D/O Ghouse Shariff no.7th 5th B cross, hutchins road, Bengaluru 560084. Have changed my name to Safaa Shariff

GALLERIA

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಹಾಗೂ ತಾಲೂಕು ಮಟ್ಟದಲ್ಲಿ
ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ತರಬೇತಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಆಹ್ವಾನ
ಸರಕಾರದ ಅಂಗೀಕೃತ ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್, ವಿವಿಧ ಕೋರ್ಸುಗಳನ್ನು ನಡೆಸಲು ಸುವರ್ಣಾವಕಾಶ
ಶಾಲೆ ಕಾಲೇಜುಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಖಾತರಿ ಉದ್ಯೋಗ ಕಲ್ಪಿಸುವ 1 ವರುಷದ
ನರ್ಸರಿ ಟೀಚರ್ಸ್ ಟ್ರೈನಿಂಗ್ ಕೋರ್ಸ್
ಪ್ರೈಮರಿ ಟೀಚರ್ಸ್ ಟ್ರೈನಿಂಗ್ (PTT)
Diploma in Computer Teachers Training Course
DIPLOMA IN COMPUTER DATA ENTRY OPERATOR
6 ತಿಂಗಳ DIT, DCA, DOA ಇತ್ಯಾದಿ ಕೋರ್ಸುಗಳು. (Qual:SSLC/PUC)
ಸರಕಾರದ PM ವಿಶ್ವಕರ್ಮ ಹಾಗೂ ವಿವಿಧ ಕೌಶಲ್ಯ ಯೋಜನೆಯ ಪಾಲುದಾರಿಕಾ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ
ರಾಷ್ಟ್ರೀಯ ಕಂಪ್ಯೂಟರ್ ಸಾಕ್ಷರತಾ ಸಮಿತಿ
Empanelled & Recognised by Govt. of India & Karnataka
Mob.: 9008419955, 9901520055, 9449198555
Email:info@thercss.com website:www.thercss.com

GET NOTICED

GOODWILL CHRISTIAN COLLEGE FOR WOMEN
No.10, Promenade Road, Frazer Town (Opp. Coles Park) Bangalore - 560 005
CSI Karnataka Central Dioces
Affiliated to Bengaluru North University, NAAC ACCREDITED
Call: 080-41516793, 41100422, 7022905576
Website: www.goodwillchristiancollege.com
E-mail: goodwillchristiancollege@gmail.com
Instagram: goodwillchristiancollege
ADMISSIONS OPEN 2025 - 2026
COURSES OFFERED
B.Com BBA BCA B.Sc B.A.
ROUNAQH

Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Times of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of the products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and the owners of The Times of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

BM SIMPLY PUT

Today, we take a look at the newly introduced FASTag Annual Pass, which offers private vehicle users up to 200 toll-free trips

Tag, you're clear

What is the FASTag Annual Pass?

The FASTag Annual Pass is a newly introduced facility that allows private vehicle owners—specifically cars, jeeps, and vans—to travel on designated National Highways (NH) and National Expressways (NE) without paying toll charges for each trip. Under this scheme, users are entitled to free passage for up to 200 trips or one year, whichever comes first. This pass eliminates the need for per-trip payments at participating toll plazas and is aimed at making highway travel more convenient and cost-effective for frequent users. The Annual Pass will be available from 15th August 2025.

Where and how can I get the Annual Pass?

After the launch (official date yet to be announced), the Annual Pass can only be purchased and activated through the Rajmargyatra mobile app or the official NHAI website. Once on the platform, users must undergo a vehicle eligibility verification process. If the FASTag and vehicle meet all criteria, users will be prompted to pay ₹3,000 for the base year 2025–26. After successful payment, the Annual Pass is typically activated on the registered FASTag within two hours.

Do I need a new FASTag for this facility?

No, you do not need to buy a new FASTag. The Annual Pass can be activated on your existing FASTag, provided it meets the eligibility requirements. This includes being correctly affixed on the vehicle's windshield, being linked to a valid Vehicle Registration Number (VRN), and not being blacklisted. Note that FASTags registered only with a chassis number are not eligible—you must update your tag with the proper VRN.

What toll plazas are covered under Annual Pass?

The Annual Pass is valid only at toll plazas on National Highways and National Expressways that fall under the NHAI. If you use your vehicle on State Highways, Expressways operated by state/local authorities, or at parking facilities, the FASTag will function as a regular tag and standard user fee charges will apply.

How long is Annual Pass valid?

The validity of the Annual Pass is determined by either one year from the date of activation or 200 toll transactions, whichever occurs first. Once either of these limits is reached, the pass will automatically convert to a regular FASTag, and standard toll charges will resume. To continue enjoying the benefits, you must re-activate the Annual Pass by paying the fee again.

Who can use Annual Pass?

This facility is strictly limited to private, non-commercial vehicles—specifically cars, jeeps, and vans. Vehicle details are verified using the VAHAN database during the application process. If the tag is found to be used on a commercial vehicle, the Annual Pass will be deactivated without notice.

Can I transfer Annual Pass to another vehicle?

No, the Annual Pass is non-transferable. It is valid only for the specific vehicle on which the FASTag is affixed and registered. Any attempt to use the pass on a different vehicle will lead to automatic deactivation of the facility.

What counts as single trip under this scheme?

Trip count depends on the toll system in place. At point-based toll plazas, each crossing (in either direction) counts as one trip, so a round trip would count as two. In the case of closed-tolling systems (such as those on some expressways), one entry and exit pair counts as a single trip.

Will I receive alerts and notifications?

Yes. Once you activate the Annual Pass, you consent to receive SMS alerts and other communications from Rajmargyatra using your registered mobile number (retrieved from the bank associated with your FASTag). These messages will help you track usage and stay updated.

Is Annual Pass mandatory?

No, opting for the Annual Pass is completely voluntary. If you do not wish to use it, you can continue using your FASTag as usual, paying the toll charges applicable at each fee plaza. The regular FASTag ecosystem will continue to operate without interruption for those who do not choose this new facility.
This Annual Pass is a practical and cost-effective solution for frequent highway travellers using private vehicles. By streamlining toll payments and offering a flat annual charge, it simplifies long-distance travel while also reducing the hassle of multiple toll deductions. Make sure your vehicle meets the criteria and activate your pass through official platforms to enjoy uninterrupted travel on India's national highways.

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

Breezy escape

Lindy Cameron, British High Commissioner to India, was in Bengaluru recently. Speaking to journalists, she said, "Visiting the marvellous city of Bengaluru is always a delightful detour! Not just charming, but this futuristic city is truly a magnet for innovation and talent across India. My first trip here was full of wonder, even though I hadn't fully grasped the vibe then.
But after spending 15 months in Delhi's hustle, I can now truly appreciate the city's blissfully cool weather. Bengaluru? It's a whole mood — vibrant, diverse, relaxing, and refreshingly green. Every visit here leaves a lasting memory!"

Docs love Bengaluru

So, a bunch of doctors, not too thrilled about being transferred out of Bengaluru, knocked on the Supreme Court's doors. Their plea? "Please don't send us away from Namma Bengaluru!"
But the Supreme Court wasn't buying it. Dismissing the petition, the bench cheekily remarked, "Yes, yes... we know. Bengaluru's cosmopolitan lifestyle is indeed attractive. But Karnataka's other cities are growing too – it's not all tech parks and filter coffee in one place! You're doctors. If you oppose transfers, what example does that set?" For context: A group of medical officers and

staff from Karnataka's Department of Health & Family Welfare had challenged their transfers under the 2025 Civil Services Cadre Rules. Even the High Court earlier wasn't swayed by the plea to halt the rules, and neither was the apex court.

September revolution

It's not Game of Thrones, but Karnataka politics sure has its plot twists, power struggles, and dramatic cliffhangers. The latest episode? Cooperation Minister KN Rajanna dropped a juicy bomb in a press briefing: "Major political shake-ups are on the horizon post-August-September!" In a cryptic yet explosive observation, Rajanna said, "This isn't the same Siddaramaiah you saw during his first term (2013-2018)." Why? Too many cooks—or rather, power centres. He pointed out that back in the day, there was one command post. Decisions were clear, singular, and swift. Now? It's a political Bermuda Triangle made up of: CM Siddaramaiah, KPCC President DK Shivakumar, and the ever-mighty Delhi High Command. So, what's brewing?

Revenue reels

In a scene straight out of a social media parody, a few revenue department officials chose reels over responsibility during a high-level review meeting chaired by Revenue Minister Krishna Byre Gowda at the Tumakuru library auditorium. While the minister was busy reviewing the progress of the Revenue Department and holding serious discussions on revenue villages and sub-villages with tahsildars and senior officials, some officers had their priorities elsewhere—happily scrolling through Facebook and watching reels on their phones, completely zoned out.
Instead of taking notes, they were busy liking posts; instead of listening to policy directions, they were lost in trending videos. The minister's words seemingly went unheard as screens stole the show.

Silent tears

In a heart-wrenching display of maternal love, a wild elephant in Hassan district has been seen carrying her stillborn calf with her trunk for over three days, refusing to let go. The elephant gave birth. Sadly, the calf didn't survive the delivery. Since then, the grieving mother has been roaming the forest with the lifeless calf, cradling it tenderly in her trunk. Eyewitnesses say the elephant tried nudging the baby with her foot, hoping to revive it — a gut-wrenching moment caught on residents' mobile phones. Even as the rains poured, the mother trudged on, unwilling to part with her baby. Her mute sorrow has left onlookers shaken, reminding everyone that grief knows no species.

Candid talks

Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi got cheeky and straight-talking recently, saying, "Politics is no still water. Even if the Cabinet changes, I just hope I get to keep my seat — that's enough of a bath for me!" While speaking to reporters during his visit to the city, he added: "Anyone can be dropped or made a minister — that's up to the party high command. During the BJP's tenure, we had three Chief Ministers and frequent Cabinet reshuffles. But in our government, it's been two calm years." **–Sridhar Vivan**

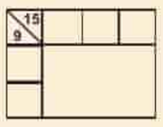
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/theBangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

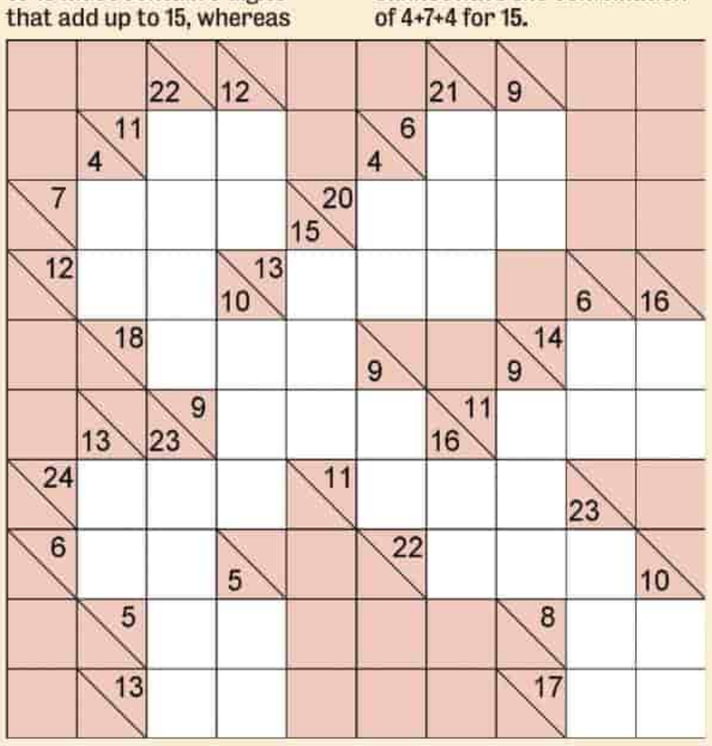
John walked the 3 km from point A to point B in 45 minutes. He walked part of the distance at a brisk 6 km/h and the balance at a more sedate 2 km/h. For what distance did John walk at 2 km/h?

Kakuro

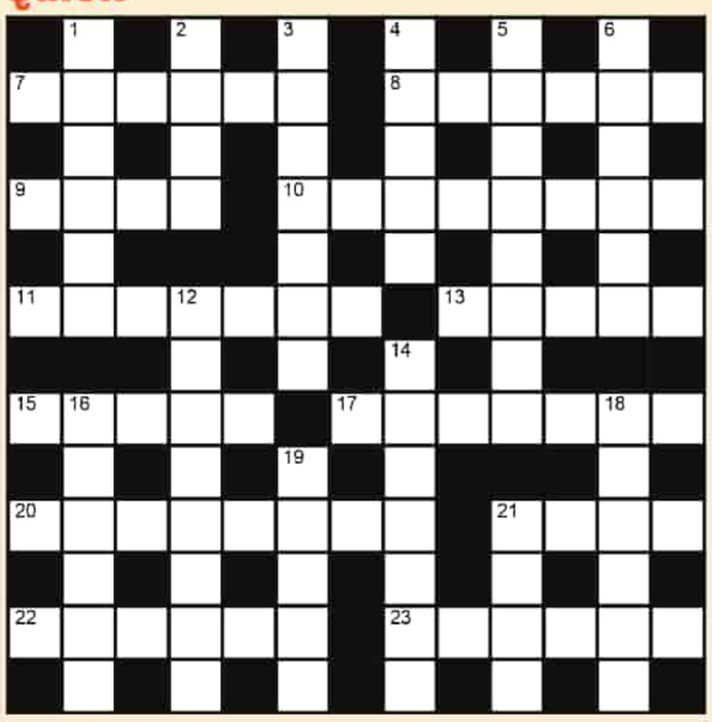
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

7 VP to Bill Clinton (2,4)
8 Reproductions (6)
9 River of Shakespeare's Stratford (4)
10 American dessert (5,3)
11 Win (7)
13 Egg-shaped body (5)
15 Husband, lovingly? (5)
17 Kenya's capital (7)
20 Mourning (8)
21 Aggressive young criminal (4)
22 Pulled with force; transported (6)
23 Distress signal (6)

DOWN

1 Dickens' ___ Twist (6)
2 Brass instrument (4)
3 Absconds or takes oneself off? (7)
4 Moves with a lame walk (5)
5 Coup (8)
6 The heavenly twins (6)
12 Brolly (8)
14 Where three rivers meet in Karnataka (7)
16 Tumult or disturbance (6)
18 Small breed of fowl (6)
19 Dizzy (5)
21 ___ a call: visits? (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: B EQUALS G

SRI BGIHS HUTHZSHBI HJXKS SIPPFZB SRI SGKSR FY SRHS ZXJXUE ITIG JIPFITIY FS.

Linemaro

Where is the nearest asylum? You made me go crazy

Mindchow

By nature, man hates change. Seldom will he quit his old home until it has actually fallen around his ears

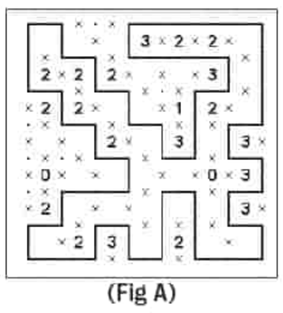
Joke of the day

The art of taxation consists in so plucking the goose as to obtain the largest amount of feathers with the least amount of hissing

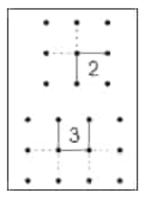
Loop

Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

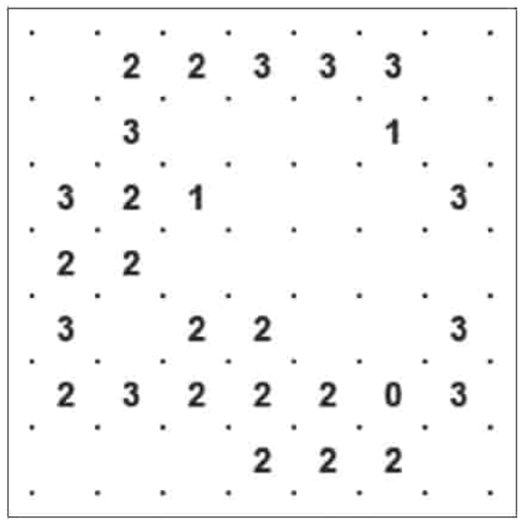


(Fig B) Not Allowed

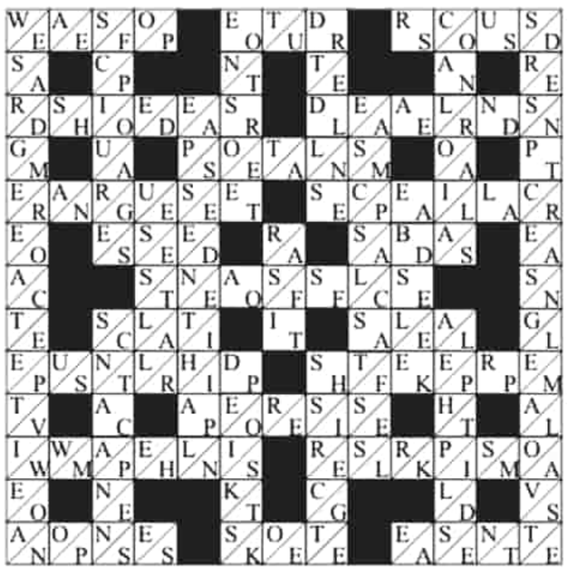
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



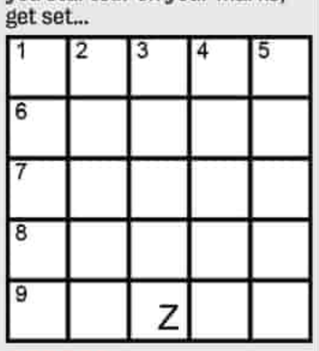
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

1 Galea; 6 Liter;
7 Atria; 8 Saint;
9 E Raze

DOWN

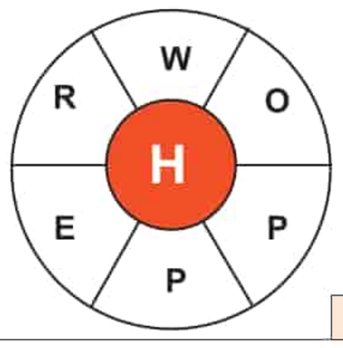
1 At art; 2 Lanai;
3 LT Zig; 4 A I ere;
5 A seer

Mensapuzzle

Which number replaces the question mark and completes the puzzle?

48	30	20
24	15	10
72	45	?

25	28	30	35	39



Bull's eye

How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

02 Average; 03 Good; 04 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

				2		6		
8		4	5		3	2		
	3			9	7			
							6	7
5		1				4		2
2	4							
			4	6			9	
		3	1		2	5		4
		8		5				

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy

= 17

2 4 6 9

Medium

= 7

2 2 2 9

Hard

= 31

3 5 8 8

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

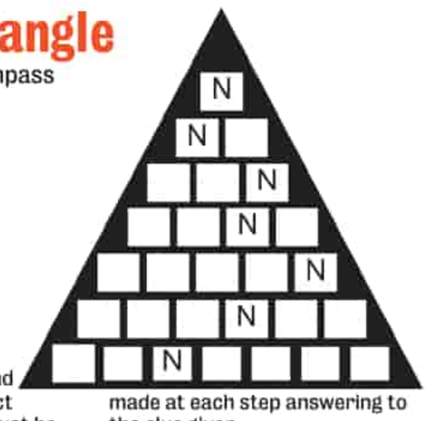
Differences: 1. Arm of chair is higher. 2. Foot is moved. 3. Tie is missing. 4. Shoelace is added. 5. Bottom of chair is different. 6. Cigar is shorter.

Riddler

There are 11 body parts that have only 3 letters (no slang allowed). What are they?

Alpha triangle

1 North on the compass
2 Xi preceder
3 Sandwich item
4 Barrel stopper
5 Started
6 Pottery mix
7 Clumsy person



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE »

COMICS

Popeye

SON, ME BEARD IS ITCHIN' SO I YAM LEAVIN' HOME!
?
?
WHAT HAS YER BEARD GOT TO DO WIT' LEAVIN' HOME ?
WHEN IT ITCHES IT MEANS EVIL IS COMIN' TO THIS HOUSE!!
!
?
10-2
RUDY HAGENDORF
©2025 King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.
popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

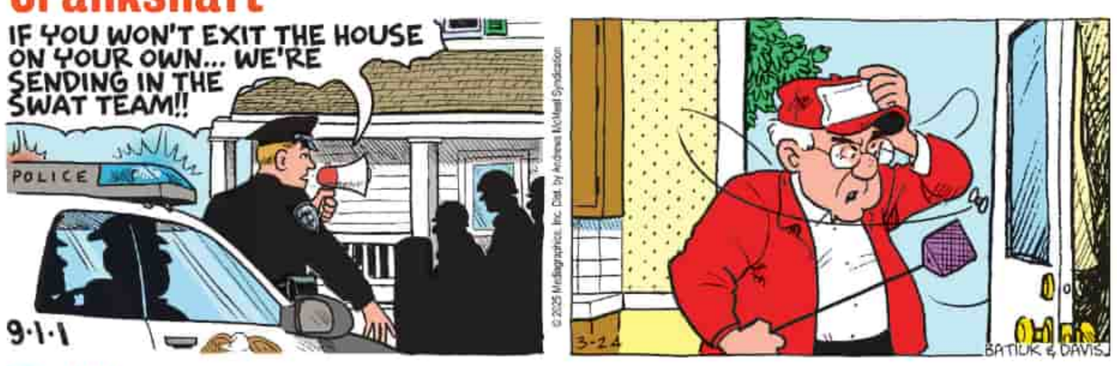
Diamond Lil

HEY, SURLI, HOW CAN I GET A GIRL TO GO GAGA OVER ME?
OK, HERE'S WHAT I FOUND...
HANG OUT AT A MATERNITY WARD
©2025 creators.com 3/24
www.creators.com
Paul Gilligan

Hart of the city

SORRY, THESE STAIRS ARE OFF-LIMITS.
BUT I JUST USED THESE STAIRS! WHAT HAPPENED??
SOMEONE SPILLED A GALLON OF MILK.
WHY THEY HAD A GALLON OF MILK WITH THEM IS BEYOND ME. BUT STUDENT ACTIVITY IS QUITE A MYSTERY, AND I'M NOT DETECTIVE POIROT. BLAH BLAH BLAH BLAH...
AUUUUUUUGH...
HEART OF THE CITY © 2025 ANDREWS MCMEEL
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY
-3:37

Crankshaft


IF YOU WON'T EXIT THE HOUSE ON YOUR OWN... WE'RE SENDING IN THE SWAT TEAM!!
POLICE
9-1-1
© 2025 Mediagraphics, Inc. Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication
3-24
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may focus on gaining knowledge and recognising the value of intellectual assets. Controlling your temper will help you carry out tasks smoothly. There may be opportunities for steady earnings, bringing comfort to your work life. However, be cautious with new investments. You might spend money on loved ones. Romance is in the air—lovebirds will enjoy joyful moments together.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Negativity may surround you today. Responsibilities might feel burdensome, and rushing tasks could lead to careless mistakes. Your work efficiency may decline, causing delays in ongoing projects, which could affect your professional life. It is advisable to consult with elders or experts before making important decisions.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
You'll feel energetic and focused today, which will help speed up pending projects. Support from subordinates could lead to new initiatives with future profits. Family-related short trips may come up. Job seekers might receive promising news about employment opportunities.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
You may successfully control unnecessary spending today, boosting your savings. Creative ideas will flourish, and you'll apply them effectively at work or home, enhancing your social standing. Lovebirds may receive family support for marriage plans. Students can expect positive academic news.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Strong willpower may drive you to introduce innovative ideas at work. A large order in a family business may lead to future growth. New job responsibilities will keep you busy, and job seekers might find suitable positions. Understanding with your spouse may deepen, bringing harmony to your domestic life.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Health issues could make you feel restless today. You may spend money on unworthy items, so financial discretion is advised. Avoid losing your temper. For couples, steer clear of arguments over trivial matters, as it could lead to conflict or even a breakup.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
You may encounter an influential person today who can support your career growth. Your professional network will strengthen, helping you implement new ideas at work or in business. You might plan to invest additional capital, leading to future financial gains. Family gatherings and social events may keep you busy at home.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Your mother's health may improve, bringing relief. You'll feel content at work and may be rewarded for your efforts. Social recognition could also increase. However, mental overwork and job stress might prevent you from attending family events, leaving you somewhat exhausted.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Satisfaction at work is likely today. You may plan a short business trip and possibly visit a religious place for inner peace. Guidance from spiritual mentors or teachers could help clarify your life goals and direction.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
You may feel low on energy today. Keeping a calm and thoughtful approach is crucial—think twice before acting. Travel related to recovering money is possible, but take caution to avoid financial losses. Refrain from adventure activities. Students should focus on deep study for academic success.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today brings positivity and peace at home. You may meet a powerful person who can support your professional endeavours. Your work performance will be strong, possibly leading to rewards or a promotion. Inherited property disputes may move toward resolution.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
You'll feel healthy and focused, performing well at work. Your boss may appreciate your efforts and assign you greater responsibilities. Positive developments in legal matters are possible. You're likely to overcome rivals and competitors in business.

KIDZONE

Supreetha, Bengaluru

TV Sumukhee, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
Let d = distance walked at 2km/h
(3 – d) / 6 + d / 2 = 45/60
0.5 + d = 3 / 0.75
d = 0.75 km

BULL'S EYE
hero, hope, hopper, WHOPPER

STRIKE OUT

W	A	S	P	O	U	D
A	C	N	E	A	R	
R	H	O	D	E	S	
M	U	S	E	A	L	S
R	A	R	E	S	T	S
A	V	O	N	I	R	
A	L	G	O	R	E	I
M	A	G	E	S		

QUICK

R		A		Y		A
H	A	U	L	E	D	
O		L		D		A
G	R	I	E	V	I	N
P		R		G		N
H	U	B	B	Y		N
		M		S		S
T	R	I	U	M	P	H
		E		M		S
A	V	O	N		A	P
I		R		C		M
A	L	G	O	R	E	I
O		H		D		L

MENSA PUZZLE
30. Working in columns, divide the top value by 2 to give the middle value, and multiply this by 3 to give the bottom value.

QUOTE UNCODE
The great advantage about telling the truth is that nobody ever believes it.

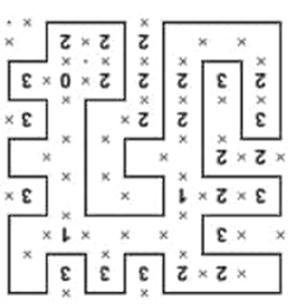
SUDOKU

9	5	7	8	2	4	6
8	6	4	5	1	3	2
1	3	2	6	9	7	4
3	8	9	2	4	5	1
5	7	1	9	8	6	4
2	4	6	7	3	1	9
7	2	5	4	6	8	3
6	9	3	1	7	2	8
4	1	8	3	5	9	7

ALPHA TRIANGLE
N, Nu, Bun, Bung, Begun, Blunge, Bungler.

GO FIGURE
Easy
6 + 9 + 4 – 2 = 17
Medium
2 / 2 x 9 – 2 = 7
Hard
8 + 5 x 3 – 8 = 31

LOOP



KAKURO

FAST FIVE

A	L	G	A	E
T	I	L	E	R
A	N	T	I	S
T	A	I	R	A
A	N	T	I	S
R	A	Z	E	E

RIDDLER
1. Arm, 2. Leg, 3. Ear, 4. Eye, 5. Lip, 6. Gum, 7. Rib, 8. Jaw, 9. Toe, 10. Hip, 11. Gut

Volume No 18, Issue No 128 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011 and printed by him at Bennett Coleman & Co Ltd., The Times of India Press, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, KIADB Bommasandra Industrial Area, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore – 560 099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru – 560 011, Email : mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

Super intimidating — Charlize Theron said she is leaving for the shoot of Christopher Nolan's 'The Odyssey' in a "couple of weeks". The actress admitted that she is quite "intimidated" to join the sets of 'The Odyssey' as she will be the last one to join the ensemble cast on the sets

BangaloreMirror | 10
Monday, June 30, 2025
mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
facebook.com/thebangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Fit for a foodie

Mrunal Thakur is undoubtedly one of the brightest stars of the new generation in Indian cinema. The actress is currently gearing up for Son of Sardaar 2 with Ajay Devgn which is slated to release on 25th July. Mrunal is well on her way to consolidating her position as a versatile performer. But beyond the cameras, the actress recently revealed a delightful quirk about her relationship with food — and it's wonderfully relatable.

In a recent conversation Mrunal candidly confessed to a rather unique habit she follows at home. The actress, known for her love for traditional Maharashtrian food, admitted that she literally locks herself in her room whenever Puran Poli is being cooked at home. "The problem with me is that when I'm not following any particular diet, I don't work out either," she shared. "But everyone else around seems to be on a diet, even when they're not working out. I love eating so much, and I especially can't resist Puran Poli. So when it's made at home, I just lock myself in my room to avoid the temptation."

Despite her love for food, Mrunal maintains a balanced approach to fitness. She revealed she's not someone who spends endless hours at the gym but rather prefers efficient, mixed-format workouts. "I work out twice a day, but I don't like being in the gym for hours. I do smart workouts and switch things up regularly because I get bored easily," she said. **—ETimes**

THE JOURNEY HAS JUST BEGUN

Ahead of B-Town debut, actor talks about journey so far, gets flak online

Shanaya Kapoor, daughter of Sanjay and Maheep Kapoor, is preparing for her Bollywood debut in 'Aankhon Ki Gustaakhiyan' with Vikrant Massey. In a recent interview, she addressed her fame and revealed it has already subjected her to criticism, highlighting the challenges she faces even before her entry into films.

In a conversation with Bollywood Hungama, Shanaya reflected on her experiences so far, acknowledging the criticism she has encountered but emphasising how she has embraced it constructively. She shared that her journey has been a great learning experience, saying, "Whatever the fame or the pressure, with fame comes comments and criticism. I've taken it in a positive way, as feedback and learnt from it, grown from it." The actress also credited her upbringing for her confidence, explaining that her parents raised her in a way that she wouldn't change, adding, "I am who I am today because of my parents. They've brought me up in a certain way. Yes, my environment has been like this, but I don't think I want it any other way because I'm confident today of who I am." The actress described the past few years as a unique journey. She said, "I think that comes with probably things I've gone through in the span of getting here. It has been a journey of its own to be here today."

A Reddit post featuring a clip of Shanaya's interview sparked backlash, with users questioning her claims about her "journey" and hardships. One caption mocked, "Shanaya Kapoor talking about her non-existent journey and 'the things she has gone through' gave me such an ick. Like, what journey? What struggles??" Comments included sarcastic remarks like, "Wow, such an insightful interview. Watching it on mute helps," and blunt observations such as "Delulu is the solulu." **—ETimes**

Fight between good and evil

BLOODY BABU

3.0 RATING ★★★☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Rajesh Murthy
- **ACTORS** Yashaswa Murthy, Smitha Gaur, MK Dilip Kumar, and Nela Narendra Babu
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 113 minutes

Rajesh Murthy, who has handled the megaphone for more than 10 movies, helms Bloody Babu, apart from writing its script and screenplay. The movie revolves around the fight between brain power and physical strength and finally conveying a message to society stating that good always prevails over evil.

The director, with this movie, has tried his best to promote his son Yashaswa Murthy as a hero in Sandalwood by including unique action scenes. In this movie, the hero and villain have the same name – Babu.

The movie begins with a mother dragging her blindfolded son home. She asks him not to open his eyes. Her husband comes home in an inebriated condition and beats her. Circumstances compel Babu (MK Dilip Kumar), who has hypnotic power, to leave his home and to rent a house. At this juncture, the director introduces Ando (Nela Narendra Babu), who owns the Wild Valley near Nandi Hills. Babu (Yashaswa Murthy) joins the Wild Valley as a chief security officer. He falls in love with Lilly (Smitha Gaur), the daughter of Ando. He comes to know that Babu, with hypnotic power, is harassing Ando. You have to watch the movie to know how Babu, with physical strength, teaches a lesson to Babu who is misusing hypnotic power.

As far as the performances of the actors are concerned, Yashaswa Murthy has showcased his acting skills in action scenes. MK Dilip Kumar is convincing as the villain. Nela Narendra Babu plays an unusual role and he looks different on the screen. Smitha Gaur has provided good support.

The movie would have been a gripping suspense thriller, had the director ensured the screenplay was crisp and reduced the runtime by 10 to 15 minutes.

The movie is worth a watch if you have ample time..

—Y Maheswara Reddy

Pitfalls of a wayward lifestyle

RAJARATHNAKARA

2.5 RATING ★★½☆☆

- **DIRECTOR** Veeresh Bommasagar
- **ACTORS** Chandan Raj, Vidhya Shri, Yamuna Srinidhi, Nagaraj Rao, Chethan Durga, and Dingri Naresh
- **CERTIFICATION** U/A
- **Duration** 138 minutes

Veeresh Bommasagar debuts as a director in Sandalwood with Rajarathnakara. The movie shows how some youngsters from lower-middle-class families prefer to be parasites rather than working hard to eke out a living. The director has aptly shown how such youth do not hesitate to stoop to any level to lead a lavish life.

The movie is about Raja (Chandan Raj), a notorious cheater and an egoist. None of the parents in the locality wants their children to be friendly with Raja. He does not care about the problems of his aged grand-father (Nagaraj Rao), who owns a flower shop near a temple, and mother (Yamuna Srinidhi), who works as a house help. He happens to see a college student (Vidhya Shri) and falls in love with her. With an intention to keep him away, she asks him to send Rs 10,000 to her. He has to sell his phone, steal his mother's mangalsutra, wash tea cups, and sell blood to make arrangements to send the money. What happens to him is what the movie is all about.

Chandan Raj has acted well. He enters into the skin of the character that is the personification of a youth with most vices. He is good in action and dance scenes. Vidhya Shri has nothing to do except a few appearances. Nagaraja Rao, as a hapless and concerned grandfather, has acted well. Yamuna Srinidhi, Chethan Durga, and Dingri Naresh provide good support.

—Y Maheswara Reddy